

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF THE BLIND



DAN KYSOR
Director of Governmental Affairs
225 15th Street
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Telephone: (916) 371-1514
FAX: (916) 371-7630
e-mail: dan@kysor.net

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
578 B STREET
HAYWARD, CA 94541
(510) 537-7877 • (800) 221-6359
FAX (510) 537-7830

www.ccbnet.org

September 17, 2004

California Performance Review
Governor's Committee on Employment for People with Disabilities
Attention: Jan Boel, Director
Office of Planning and Research
1400 10th. Street
Public Comment:

Dear C.P.R. Panel and Director Boel,

The California Council of the Blind, CCB, is the largest consumer organization of blind and visually impaired Californians seeking to improve employment outcomes for our members for seventy years. We strongly oppose the proposed elimination of the Governor's Committee on Employment for People with Disabilities as contained in the California Performance Review, CPR.

Currently, there is an estimated rate of unemployment exceeding 70% for people with disabilities in this state. Moreover, since the inception of the Governor's Committee on Employment for People with Disabilities in 1947, the mission of the committee has changed over the years to include this committee as the designated centralized resource in California for disability employment services and policy development.

While this committee is voluntary and brings in over \$500,000 per year with contributions supporting committee staff, the committee has been striving to bring adults with disabilities into gainful employment, fosters the goals of equality, Ensure that state government is a model employer of individuals with disabilities and supports state coordination with, and participation in, benefits planning training and information dissemination projects supported by private foundations and federal grants.

Consumer input is vital to the resolution of California's unemployment situation and to the further independence of all Californians with

Disabilities.

Again, we urge your support for the continuation of this vital committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan W. Kysor". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "D" and a series of connected loops for the rest of the name.

Dan W. Kysor